



a

THAMNOMYS LORINGI Heller
Type. Natural size

b

MUS PEROMYSCUS Heller
Type. Natural size

TWO NEW RODENTS FROM BRITISH EAST AFRICA

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WITH ONE PLATE

Two Murine rodents collected by members of the Smithsonian African Expedition in British East Africa during June and July, 1909, appear to be new to science. This paper, in which they are described, is the second dealing with the results of the expedition.

THAMNOMYS LORINGI, sp. nov.

(Plate LVI, *a*, skull, natural size)

Type No. 161904, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult female (skin and skull), Lake Naivasha, British East Africa, July 17, 1909; collected by J. Alden Loring; original No. 6684.

General characters.—A large *Thamnomys* agreeing with *T. dryas* Thomas in dental characters and number of mammæ (p o — o, i 2 — 2 = 4); coloration distinctive, the face marked on each side with a broad black band from tip of snout through eye to base of ear.

Color.—Upperparts wood-brown, washed with black medially, tinged with light tawny on rump and lumbar region; sides paler and grayer, but brown color continuing well down to the creamy white of the underparts, the line of demarcation sharply defined; sides of head marked by a broad band of black from the snout through the eye to base of the ear; interorbital region and crown dusky, with a slight grizzle; ears scantily covered by ferruginous hairs; whole underparts, including cheeks and the fore and hind feet, creamy white, the hair basally slate-gray; tail black, clothed scantily with short black hairs which become more numerous posteriorly and form a slight pencil at the tip.

Measurements.—Head and body, 160; tail, 174; hind foot, 30; ear, 21 (dry). Skull: condylobasal length, 36.0; zygomatic breadth, 20.2; interorbital constriction, 4.8; mastoid breadth, 15.6; depth of braincase at middle, 19.6; nasal, 14.0; diastema, 10.8; mandible, 22.4; maxillary tooththrow (alveoli), 5.8; mandibular tooththrow (alveoli), 5.6.

MUS PEROMYSCUS, sp. nov.

(Plate LVI, *b*, skull, natural size)

Type No. 161905, U. S. Nat. Mus., adult male (skin and skull); Njoro O Nyiro, Sotik, British East Africa; June 9, 1909; collected by E. Heller; original No. 1011.

General characters.—Skull long and narrow with slender appressed zygomatic arches and produced rostrum; molar series short and narrow with the internal cusps illy defined; ears large, rounded, scantily clothed by minute hairs; tail essentially naked.

Color.—Upperparts sepia changing gradually to walnut-brown posteriorly; sides mixed grayish and fulvous, the transition to the gray of the underparts rather abrupt; sides of head and base of ears lighter brown, similar to the coloration of the rump; underparts and feet light grayish, with faint median fulvous wash; tail dusky.

Measurements.—Head and body, 135; tail, 146; hind foot, 26; ear, 22. Skull: condylobasal length, 30.4; zygomatic breadth, 16.0; interorbital constriction, 5.0; mastoid breadth, 12.8; depth of braincase at middle, 9.0; nasal, 12.8; diastema, 8.6; mandible, 19.0; maxillary tooththrow (crowns), 5.0; mandibular tooththrow (alveoli), 5.0.